

PROJECT NUMBER: 1333  
PROJECT TITLE: Semiworks Process Control  
PROJECT LEADER: D. A. Phan  
PERIOD COVERED: April, 1989

- A. Objective: Evaluate and revise the process control and data acquisition system to improve processing performance and production quality.

B. Results:

Unused Equipment Removal (Oliver) - This is an on-going project to remove unused equipment in the Semiworks primary, in collaboration with the Semiworks Process Development group. For the month of April, the Quester feeder at the 6,000 lbs preblend area was removed and sent to the Stemmy. A typical pin feeder will be installed at this location in the near future. The 3,000-lbs preblend cylinder was relocated to the 6,000-lbs line. The conveyors at the preblend area were also rearranged to accommodate production flexibility. Work is underway to remove the oversized Burley silo and replace with the Turkish silo; and rearrange equipment at the P&S dryer and Burley top casing cylinder.

On-line Moisture Meter Evaluation (Oliver) - Initial results indicated that the calibration of the new MM55 moisture meter from Infrared Engineering is dependent on different tobacco types. A meeting was held with Infrared Engineering to discuss the problems. A new version of software and hardware to improve its performance will be sent to us by June 1, 1989.

Vacuum Conditioner Motor Control Center Replacement (Phan) - Plan is underway to replace the Westinghouse motor control center at the vacuum conditioner due to safety reasons. A job order request has been approved. Equipment will be ordered the week of May 8, 1989. Installation is planned to begin in July 1989.

Make/Pack Electrical Engineering Support (Phan) - Purchase orders have been issued for a second continuous instant hot water system for glue cleaning purposes. This system will be installed in May 1989.

P&S Dryer Process and Improvements (Phan) - Work is underway in collaboration with Semiworks Primary personnel to improve the performance of the P&S dryer. A test run has been performed on May 1 to establish base line data.

Primary Moisture Control (Phan) - Work is underway in collaboration with Semiworks Primary personnel to identify problems with controlling moisture and establish plan of activities and guidelines to improve performance.

- C. Plans: - Continue providing electrical plant engineering support to the Semiworks and conduct routine QA functions.